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CDC Function	Function Definition
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH MONITORING</b> (Note 1)	
- Public Health Surveillance	<p>The ongoing, systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of health-related data (for the purpose of public health action), essential to the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice, closely integrated with the timely dissemination of these data to those responsible for preventing and controlling disease (1-4). Includes the sub-functions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. planning surveillance systems</li> <li>2. developing surveillance systems</li> <li>3. conducting surveillance               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. data collection</li> <li>b. data collation and analysis</li> <li>c. data dissemination</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. evaluating surveillance systems</li> </ol>
- Health Determinants	<p>The study of any factor, whether event, characteristic, or other definable entity, that brings about change in a health condition or other defined characteristic (5). Includes the sub-functions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. planning studies</li> <li>2. developing studies</li> <li>3. conducting studies</li> <li>4. evaluating studies</li> </ol>
- Epidemiologic Studies	<p>The study of the distribution and determinants of health, diseases, and injuries in human populations and the application of this study to prevention and control (6). It is different from surveillance in that epidemiologic studies are usually time-limited to test hypothesis or to describe a problem in detail (7). Includes the sub-functions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. planning studies</li> <li>2. developing studies</li> <li>3. conducting studies               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. data collection</li> <li>b. data collation and analysis</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. evaluating studies</li> </ol>
- Vital Statistics	<p>The nationwide collection of data from vital records (birth and death certificates). Includes the sub-functions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. plan statistics collection</li> <li>2. develop collection systems</li> <li>3. collect vital statistics</li> <li>4. evaluate statistics collection</li> </ol>
- Health Surveys	<p>The collection of a statistically valid sample of data for analysis of some aspect of a group or area (2). Includes the sub-functions:</p>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. plan surveys</li> <li>2. develop surveys</li> <li>3. perform surveys</li> <li>4. evaluate surveys</li> </ol>
<b>RESEARCH</b> (Note 1)	
- Laboratory Research	<p>Includes the sub-functions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. basic lab research in disease</li> <li>2. lab testing in support of surveillance, surveys, and epidemiology</li> <li>3. creation and distribution of reference and diagnostic reagents of public health interest</li> <li>4. reference testing</li> <li>5. specimen management</li> </ol>
- Epidemiologic Methods Research	The study of new, modified, or refined epidemiologic techniques (1).
- Prevention Research	Prevention research (also known as public health research) is a means to identify and evaluate practical and effective strategies to promote health and prevent disease, injury and disability. The term is used to describe many types of scientific activities, but is often used to describe <i>applied research that takes discovery to the point of actual practice (15)</i> .
- Survey and Statistical Methods Research	The study of new, modified, or refined survey and statistical methodologies (1).
- Health Effects Research	An investigation of exposed persons designed to assist in identifying exposure or effects on public health. Also defines the health problems that require further inquiry by means of, for example, a health surveillance or epidemiologic study (8).
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS</b>	
- Health Alerts	The urgent dissemination of health warning information (developed internally or received externally) to the general public and health professionals to bring about immediate public action to respond to or prevent a perilous health event.
- Promotion of Preventive Practices	The formal and informal means of developing, reviewing, organizing, maintaining, and supplying public health knowledge and information to public health and medical professionals, policymakers, and the general public (1).
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES</b>	
- Emergency Response	A public health activity undertaken in an urgent or emergency situation, usually because of an identified or suspected imminent health threat to the population, but sometimes because the public and/or government authorities perceive an imminent threat that demands immediate action. The primary purpose of the activity is to document the

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	existence and magnitude of a public health problem in the community and to implement appropriate measures to address the problem(4, 9)
- Technical Assistance & Consultation	The activities related to providing interactive consultation and advice as requested from those both inside and outside CDC (1).
- Outbreak Investigation and Intervention	The activities associated with responding to requests for immediate assistance including health hazard evaluations, epidemic aid missions, and serious/fatal injury investigations (1).
- Diagnostic Lab Testing and Quality Assurance	The activities related to improving the quality of laboratory practices. Includes the sub-functions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. conduct research and surveillance</li> <li>2. create, organize, maintain, and disseminate information</li> <li>3. develop and promote standards and guidelines</li> <li>4. provide training and education</li> <li>5. assess laboratory technologies and their applications</li> </ol> (10)
- Program Implementation	The activities related to responding to the findings of Public Health Monitoring with action to prevent and control disease and negative health effects (7). Includes the sub-functions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. plans programs</li> <li>7. develops programs</li> <li>8. manages programs</li> </ol>
- Program Evaluations (Note 1)	<p>An essential organizational practice in public health using a systematic approach to improve and account for public health actions (4, 11)</p> <p>Includes the activities involved in assessing the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of prevention and control programs (1).</p> <p>Note: Program Evaluations are a subset of Evaluations which are defined as: the systematic application of scientific and statistical procedures for measuring program conceptualization, design, implementation, and utility; making comparisons based on these measurements; and the use of the resulting information to optimize program outcomes (12, 13)</p>
- Public Health Training and Education	The activities related to determining professional development and training needs and developing, delivering, and evaluating courses and other programs to meet these needs (1). These activities are aimed at both the public health professionals and the general public.

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- Development of Regulations, Standards, Policies, and Guidelines	The activities performed to produce guidance and/or direction to impact public health activities. Includes the sub-functions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. develop regulations</li> <li>2. develops standards/guidelines</li> <li>3. develops policies</li> <li>4. develops legislation</li> </ol>
- Infrastructure Assessment and Development	The activities involved in evaluating and improving the effectiveness of the resources, training, techniques, tools, and interconnectivity used by public health organizations at all levels.
Strategic Planning	The activities necessary to identify, prioritize, schedule, and implement the Agency's missions, goals, and project initiatives.
<b>RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>	
- Grants	The activities necessary to administer grant programs. Includes the sub-functions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. plans grant programs</li> <li>2. develops requests for grant assistance</li> <li>3. develops grant programs</li> <li>4. manages grant programs</li> <li>5. evaluates grant programs (1)</li> </ol>
- Human Resources	Includes the sub-functions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. develop personnel plans</li> <li>2. recruit, hire, and terminate personnel</li> <li>3. evaluate, compensate, and reward personnel</li> <li>4. develop personnel</li> <li>5. provide employee services (1)</li> </ol>
- Information	The activities necessary to develop, provide, and support IRM products and services for CDC's infrastructure that facilitate the collection, management, analysis and dissemination of data and information for public health, management of resources, transaction of business functions, and protection of information assets (14).
- Facilities	The activities necessary for facilities planning, acquisition/disposal, and management (1).
- Financial	Includes the sub-functions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. formulate budgets</li> <li>2. acquire funds</li> <li>3. execute budgets</li> <li>4. disperse funds (1)</li> </ol>
- Materiel	The activities necessary for materiel planning, acquisition, disposal, maintenance, and storage, distribution (1).

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## *Note 1:*

The Department of Health and Human Services developed regulations (Title 45 Code of Federal Regulations Part 46) to assure the protection of human subjects from research risks. These regulations were developed to address ethical issues raised in connection with biomedical or behavioral research involving human subjects. The regulations identified that the major difference between research and non-research lies in the primary intent of the activity. The primary intent of research is to generate or contribute to generalizable knowledge. The primary intent of non-research in public health is to prevent or control disease or injury and improve health, or to improve a public health program or service.

Therefore, if a public health activity (e.g., surveillance) is designed with the intent to develop generalizable knowledge, it technically becomes research and may be subject to review by CDC's IRB. While the activity may be classified and treated as research, the basic subfunctions it includes remain the same, i.e., it does not necessarily include research subfunctions because it was classified as research.

## *References*

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